

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical scanner comprising:

a plurality of light sources configured to emit beams including first and second beams;

a coupling optical system configured to couple beams emitted from the light sources;

a line image focusing optical system configured to focus each beam coupled to a line image extending longer in a main scan direction;

a deflector provided with deflecting reflective surfaces on focused positions of the line image and a common rotary axis for the deflecting reflective surfaces, and configured to be shared by the beams from the light sources and to deflect the beams focused;

a scanning optical system provided with at least two scanning lenses and configured to guide the beams deflected to a plurality of target surfaces for optical scanning; and

a photodetector configured to receive the beams deflected at the deflector,

wherein

the beams traveling toward the deflector have an open angle θ in a deflecting rotation plane,

a scanning lens proximate to one of the target surfaces, among the at least two scanning lenses, passes only the beams traveling toward the one of the target surfaces, and

scanning lenses proximate to the target surfaces, among the at least two scanning lenses, configured to guide the beams to different target surfaces have optical actions different from each other, and are arranged in different layouts.

2. (Previously Presented) The optical scanner according to claim 1, wherein the scanning lens proximate to one of the target surfaces has a power in a sub scan direction

higher than a power in a sub scan direction of a scanning lens proximate to the deflector.

3. (Previously Presented) The optical scanner according to claim 1, wherein the scanning optical system arranged between the deflector and the plurality of target surfaces for guiding the beams to different target surfaces includes a reducing optical system.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The optical scanner according to claim 1, wherein the scanning lens proximate to one of the target surfaces has a radius of sub scan curvature on at least one surface asymmetrically varying gradually from an optical axis toward both peripheries.

6. (Currently Amended) The optical scanner according to claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1, wherein the scanning lenses proximate to the target surfaces for guiding the beams to different target surfaces have a same shape as each other and are rotated about an optical axis by 180 degrees oppositely from each other and arranged in different layouts.

7. (Original) The optical scanner according to claim 1, wherein the beams emitted from at least two light sources corresponding to different target surfaces are spatially separated from each other in the deflecting rotation plane on optical paths extending from the light sources to the line image focusing optical system.

8. (Original) The optical scanner according to claim 1, wherein at least two light sources corresponding to different target surfaces are integrated.

9. (Previously Presented) The optical scanner according to claim 1, wherein the photodetector configured to receive the beams deflected at the deflector receives the beams corresponding to different target surfaces.

10-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:
an optical scanner comprising:

a plurality of light sources configured to emit beams including first and second beams;

a coupling optical system configured to couple beams emitted from the light sources;

a line image focusing optical system configured to focus each beam coupled to a line image extending longer in a main scan direction;

a deflector provided with deflecting reflective surfaces on focused positions of the line image and a common rotary axis for the deflecting reflective surfaces, and configured to be shared by the beams from the light sources and to deflect the beams focused;

a scanning optical system provided with at least two scanning lenses and configured to guide the beams deflected to a plurality of photosensitive objects surfaces for optical scanning; and

a photodetector configured to receive the beams deflected at the deflector,
wherein

the beams traveling toward the deflector have an open angle θ in a deflecting rotation

plane,

a scanning lens proximate to one of the photosensitive objects, among the at least two scanning lenses, passes only the beams traveling toward the one of the photosensitive objects, and

scanning lenses proximate to the photosensitive objects, among the at least two scanning lenses, configured to guide the beams to different photosensitive objects have optical actions different from each other, and are arranged in different layouts.

24-26. (Canceled)

27. (New) An optical scanner comprising:

a plurality of light sources configured to emit beams including first and second beams;

a coupling optical system configured to couple beams emitted from the light sources;

a line image focusing optical system configured to focus each beam coupled to a line image extending longer in a main scan direction;

a deflector provided with deflecting reflective surfaces on focused positions of the line image and a common rotary axis for the deflecting reflective surfaces, and configured to be shared by the beams from the light sources and to deflect the beams focused;

a scanning optical system provided with at least two scanning lenses and configured to guide the beams deflected to a plurality of target surfaces for optical scanning; and

a photodetector configured to receive the beams deflected at the deflector,

wherein

the beams traveling toward the deflector have an open angle θ in a deflecting rotation plane,

a scanning lens proximate to one of the target surfaces, among the at least two scanning lenses, passes only the beams traveling toward the one of the target surfaces, scanning lenses proximate to the target surfaces, among the at least two scanning lenses, configured to guide the beams to different target surfaces have optical actions different from each other, have a same shape as each other, and are rotated about an optical axis by 180 degrees oppositely from each other and arranged in different layouts, and one of the scanning lenses proximate to the target surfaces has a radius of sub scan curvature on at least one surface asymmetrically varying gradually from an optical axis toward both peripheries.